RED RIVER

9

story and art by **Chie Shinohara**

RED RIVER

Prince Kail, a young warrior and sorcerer, and Yuri, a modern-day teen, were thrown together when Queen Nikki drew Yuri across time and space into the ancient Hittite Empire. When it is the season of the North Star, Prince Kail has the power to send Yuri home. But the evil queen's plan to murder them both—and their growing feelings for one another—keep getting in the way!

Yuri fights to clear her good name by publicly confronting her impersonator. Rather than earning respect, however, she is exiled to a settlement of the sick and dying! Yuri sets out to change people's minds, all the time hoping to be reunited with Kail. However, her heart is broken when she finds out that Kail has been hiding a terrible secret of his own. Does Kail deserve a bad reputation?

RED RIVER

vol.9

Story Thus Far:

Prince Kail
The third prince of the Hittite Empire and a powerful sorcerer

Yuri
A Japanese schoolgirl magically transported to the ancient Hittite Empire

Queen Nakia
An evil sorceress who will stop at nothing to ensure her son's succession to the throne

Yuri was an ordinary junior high student until the day she was sucked into a portrait on the street and emerged in the ancient Hittite Empire! Evil Queen Nakia had used her magic to draw Yuri across time and space to be a sacrifice to her god Teshub. Rescued by the handsome but arrogant Prince Kail, Yuri is taken to live in his palace as his concubine. Yuri soon learns that in order for her to return to her own place and time, three conditions must be met: she must have the help of a sorcerer equal to the queen—which Prince Kail turns out to be—all seven of Hattusa's springs must fill with water, and Yuri must wear the clothes she had on when she was kidnapped.

Yuri sneaks into the queen's palace with Kail's young servant Tito to retrieve her clothes. But they walk into a trap, and Tito is killed after serving Yuri's side. When the opportunity finally arrives for Yuri to go home, she refuses, vowing to stay until she has avenged Tito's murder.

The Hittites come to adore Yuri as the incarnation of the goddess Ishtar. Soon Yuri discovers that Prince Kail's dream is to create an empire of justice.

Now an epidemic of the deadly Seven Day Fever strikes the Hittite Empire. Suppiluliuma succumbs to the disease and Kail's older brother becomes the new emperor. Kail and Jinda, the son of Queen Nakia, are then named as candidates for crown prince. Meanwhile, a woman impersonating Yuri appears in the city of Ketapa where she outrages the people with her selfish behavior, causing Yuri's popularity to plummet. To restore her good name, Yuri sneaks into Ketapa alone.

AND MY PRINCE DOES WHATEVER I ASK OF HIM.
I WILL ASK PRINCE KAIL TO PUNISH YOU SEVERELY
ESPECIALLY IN HIS RED-CHAMBER
STOP THAT!
I'M ISHTAR!
STOP MAKING TROUBLE FOR PRINCE KAIL BY IMPERSONATING ME!

I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG!
NO, I WON'T!
AND... AND SHE'S NOT...
NOW!
APOLOGIZE TO ISHTAR!
YOU INSOLENT RAG PICKER!

KLANK
W-WAIT!
PLEASE LISTEN TO ME!
PREPARE YOURSELF!
SACRILEGE AGAINST ISHTAR IS A SERIOUS OFFENSE GIRL!
TAKE HER AWAY!
SHE'S UNSIGHTLY AND OFFENSIVE TO ISHTAR!
I I'M.
YOU ACTUALLY THINK THAT PRINCE KAIL WOULD EVER MAKE LOVE TO YOU?
ISHTAR IS PRINCE KAIL'S CONCUBINE!
HA
YOU ARE ISHTAR ?!
YOU? ISHTAR ?!
HOW AMUSING!
HO HO HO HO
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA
JUST LOOK AT YOUR SELF!
CHUCKLE CHUCKLE
THAT IS A GOOD ONE
DON'T YOU KNOW THAT ISHTAR IS STRIKINGLY BEAUTIFUL?

I MAY BE HIS CONCUBINE IN NAME ONLY. BUT MY LOVE FOR PRINCE KAIL IS REAL
DOES PHYSICAL BEAUTY MATTER MORE THAN THAT?
I'D DO ANYTHING TO HELP HIM.
ISN'T THAT ENOUGH?

COME WITH ME!
ARE YOU STILL CLAIMING THAT?
BUT IT'S TRUE! I AM THE REAL ISHTAR!
HO HO HO
AH HA HA HA
DON'T LET THAT WOMAN GET AWAY WITH THIS!
CHUCKLE CHUCKLE
AH HA HA HA
WELL, SHE WAS AT LEAST ENTERTAINING
DON'T YOU THINK?
IF THAT GIRL COULD BE A PRINCE'S CONCUBINE THEN ANY ONE OF US COULD!

SHE COULD HAVE SEEN HER IN HATTUSA
IT MAY BE THAT SHE HAS SEEN THE REAL ISHTAR.
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
IT WON'T DO TO ALLOW HER TO KEEP CALLING YOU A FALSE ISHTAR
IT WAS SIMPLE JEALOUSY THAT CAUSED HER TO MAKE SUCH A WILD CLAIM.
I'M SURE THE MAYOR WOULD SEND HER THERE IF YOU TOLD HIM TO
STILL IT MIGHT BE SAFER IF SHE WENT TO THE VALLEY
DON'T FORGET IF EVER YOUR DECEPTION IS EXPOSED YOU'LL BE CONDEMNED TO DEATH

OH HIRH!
IF YOU WISH TO PUNISH HER...
WHY NOT SEND HER TO THE VALLEY?
HOW SHOULD I PUNISH THAT GIRL?
HOW AUDACIOUS OF HER TO CALL ME AN IMPOSTOR. EVEN THE MAYOR AND THE NOBLES BELIEVE THAT I AM ISHTAR
WELL SENDING HER TO THE VALLEY IS A KIND OF FORCED LABOR
I WAS THINKING OF A GOOD LASHING OR PERHAPS FORCED LABOR...
YOU MEAN THAT VALLEY?
BUT SHE'D NEVER COME OUT OF THERE ALIVE!

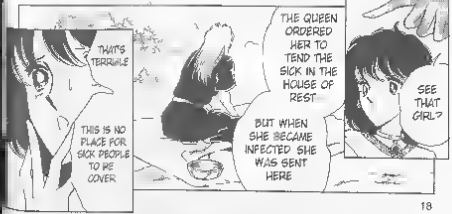
I'LL NEVER COME OUT OF THIS PLACE ALIVE?
THE SICK?
IT'S A PITY A YOUNG GIRL LIKE YOU HAS TO GO HERE. YOU'LL NEVER COME OUT ALIVE.
BAM
KLAK
IN WITH YOU!
WHY DON'T YOU DEVOTE THE REST OF YOUR LIFE TO CARING FOR THE SICK?
RUSTLE
I DON'T MIND HELPING OTHERS BUT WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?
NOW WE'LL SEE IF YOU'RE SO GOOD AT HELPING OTHERS AS YOU ARE AT SHOUTING AT GODDESSES
SHUT UP AND WALK
YOU THINK YOU CAN INSULT ISHTAR LIKE THAT?
WH-WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?
LOOK THERE
THAT IS THE VALLEY

GASP
YOU!
WHAT DID YOU DO TO BE THROWN INTO THIS PLACE?
YOU'RE NOT INFECTED, ARE YOU?
NO ONE CHOOSES TO COME TO THE VALLEY
DO ALL OF THESE PEOPLE HAVE THE SEVEN DAY FEVER?
YES BUT ONLY THE MOST SERIOUSLY AFFLICTED ARE CONFINED HERE
YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT BEFORE YOU CAME?
CAN'T THEY GO TO THE QUEEN'S HOUSE OF REST FOR TREATMENT?
THOSE ARE ONLY FOR THE RICH
ARE THESE PEOPLE...
...VICTIMS OF THE SEVEN DAY FEVER?

EVEN A HEALTHY PERSON WOULD SOON FALL ILL IN THIS PLACE
THIS PLACE ONLY MAKES THEM WORSE
THAT'S WHY ALL THE VICTIMS ARE DOING SO POORLY HERE
A HEALTHY PERSON ?!
YOU'RE RIGHT
NO ONE PROVIDES FOOD OR MEDICINE FOR THESE PEOPLE
THEY HAVE TO WALK A LONG WAY EVEN TO GET WATER FOR THEMSELVES

ONLY THE RICH AND THOSE WITH HIGH-RANKING FRIENDS CAN GO THERE
KOFF
KOFF
WE ALL WISH WE COULD BE TREATED IN HOUSE OF REST.

THE QUEEN CARES NOTHING FOR COMMON PEOPLE LIKE US
THOSE HOUSES OF REST ONLY EXIST TO MAKE THE QUEEN LOOK GOOD
HE'S RIGHT. POOR SUFFERERS LIKE US ARE SENT HERE TO ROT


THAT'S TERRIBLE
THIS IS NO PLACE FOR SICK PEOPLE TO RECOVER
THE QUEEN ORDERED HER TO TEND THE SICK IN THE HOUSE OF REST
BUT WHEN SHE BECAME INFECTED SHE WAS SENT HERE
SEE THAT GIRL?

HEH HEH
IT'S UNLIKELY THE GIRL HAS EVER HAD THE SEVEN DAY FEVER BEFORE...
SHE MIGHT HAVE SUFFERED AN EASIER DEATH HAD SHE ALLOWED QUEEN NAKIA TO HAVE HER HEAD
HEH HEH
HEH HEH
HEH HEH
HEH HEH
HEH HEH
SHE'S SURE TO PERISH IN THE VALLEY

NO I'M HERE OF MY OWN CHOOSING
I CONTRACTED THE FEVER AS A CHILD AND SURVIVED
ARE... ARE YOU INFECTED?
IT IS SAID THAT HAVING SURVIVED THE DISEASE ONE CAN NEVER BE INFECTED AGAIN
HAVE YOU EVER HAD THE SEVEN DAY FEVER?
NO WE DON'T HAVE THAT DISEASE WHERE I'M FROM
THEN YOU'RE IN TERRIBLE DANGER!
YOU MUST FLEE IMMEDIATELY OR YOU'LL BE INFECTED!
IF YOU CONTRACT IT YOU'RE AS GOOD AS LOST

HE CAN HELP YOU
KURK IS THE MAYOR'S SON
BUT THE MAYOR PUT ME IN HERE
HOW CAN I GET OUT?
WAP
NOW COME WITH ME!
OH!
THAT MAN WHO GROVELS AT ISHTAR'S FEET...
IS NO LONGER MY FATHER.
THE MAYOR'S SON? YOU?
WATER...
GIVE ME WATER...
H-HOLD ON I'LL BRING YOU SOME SOON...
EMPTY...
BA-BUMP
THE SEVEN DAY FEVER...
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
...IS A CONTAGIOUS DISEASE WITH A HIGH MORTALITY RATE! I'M TERRIFIED!
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
WE'RE SHORT OF EVERY THING HERE.
WE CAN'T GET ENOUGH WATER TO EVEN FILL THE URNS
IF YOU'RE NOT SICK YET, FLEE THIS PLACE AT ONCE
SHE'S RIGHT I'LL HELP YOU

ER-HER-S HER
AAAH!
NO. I'M NEXT! THE MAYOR SAID THAT ANYONE WHO COULD BREAK THIS HORSE COULD HAVE HIM!
I'M NEXT
FWUMP
BUT... HE SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE TO HANDLE.
UGH!
THIS IS A ONCE IN A LIFETIME OPPORTUNITY!
I CAN RIDE THAT HORSE!
WHAT?
RAAH
RAAH
OFF WITH YOU!
WE'RE BATTLE-HARDENED SOLDIERS AND NONE OF US CAN STAY ON THAT DEVIL'S BACK!
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND GIRL?!
RAAH
RAAH
OH, THE MAYOR'S. WHO IS THIS WOMAN, MILORD?
SHE'S MY SERVANT
RAAH
RAAH
EEEK
RAAH
IF YOU CAN GET HIM BACK YOU CAN FLEE KATAPA!
THAT'S YOUR HORSE? EXCELLENT!
ASLAN!

TR
A
WHAT ?!
SWUP

SWOOF
WH- WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
STOP! YOU'LL BE KILLED!
TARRUMP
TARRUMP
TARRUMP
TARRUMP
TARRUMP
GET OUT OF THERE YOU LITTLE FOOL!
HE'LL CRUSH YOU UNDER HIS HOOVES!
THAT HORSE IS MAD!

ANYONE WHO CAN RIDE THIS HORSE CAN KEEP HIM, RIGHT?
THEN HE'S MINE!
SILENCE
WHAT ?!
WHAT ARE YOU ?
WAP
YOU'RE AMAZING! AND LUCKY! NOW YOU CAN LEAVE THIS TOWN.
HOP ON, KLIRK!
WHO IS THAT GIRL?
THAT'S A WAR-HORSE AND A FINE ONE

KLOP
KLOP
KLOP
KLOP
KLOP
WUMP
KLO

WHAT?!
THAT GIRL IS CARING FOR THE SICK?!
AAAH!
WAH!
KRAK
KRAK
KRASH
OH
WE'VE BROUGHT WATER!
I'LL HELP YOU CARE FOR THE SICK
ASLAN IS VERY STRONG WITH HIM WE CAN HAUL LOTS OF WATER BACK FROM THE SPRING
WHAWN?
WHERE'S THE NEAREST WATER?
WHAT?
BUT WHAT I'VE SEEN HERE WOULD HAUNT ME FOREVER IF I RAN AWAY
I'M SCARED
FORGIVE ME FOR ALWAYS DOING THINGS WITHOUT CONSULTING YOU, PRINCE KAIL
I'M SCARED TO DEATH OF THE SEVEN DAY FEVER, BUT I JUST CAN'T ABANDON THOSE POOR SICK PEOPLE

BUT I WONDER WHY.
I WAS PREPARED TO GET SICK, BUT I FEEL JUST FINE.
WHY?! WHY DOESN'T THAT LITTLE FOOL CATCH THE SEVEN DAY FEVER?

ARE YOU FEELING SICK AT ALL?
YURI YOU'VE BEEN HERE FOR SEVEN DAYS YET YOU SEEM PERFECTLY HEALTHY
I'VE NEVER FELT BETTER! I CAN WORK HARD ALL DAY LONG!
NOT A BIT!
BUT WHY HASN'T SHE FALLEN ILL YET?
EVEN A STRONG MAN WOULD BE SHOWING SYMPTOMS OF THE DISEASE BY NOW!
HMH?
DON'T WORRY.
SHE'LL CATCH THE SICKNESS BEFORE LONG
STUPID GIRL DOES SHE WISH TO DIE?

THEY CALL YOU THE MIRACLE GIRL
YURI
THE WHOLE CITY IS TALKING ABOUT YOU
STILL WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL THAT YOU CAME TO THE VALLEY
A MIRACLE GIRL WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SENT HERE TO PERFORM FORCED LABOR.
I CAME TO KATAPA TO EXPOSE THAT PHONY ISHTAR, BUT THINGS HAVE TAKEN A STRANGE TURN
I CAN'T LEAVE THESE PEOPLE TO DIE

YES, I'VE HEARD ABOUT HER! SHE'S LIVING WONDER!
DID YOU HEAR THAT?
A GIRL WAS CAST INTO THE VALLEY MANY DAYS AGO, BUT SHE HASN'T CONTRACTED THE SEVEN DAY FEVER!
IF WE GO AND LOOK UPON HER, MAYBE WE'LL BE PROTECTED FROM THE PLAGUE
THEY SAY EVEN A STRONG MAN WOULD CATCH THE DISEASE WITHIN A FEW DAYS AND LIKELY DIE
BUT I HEAR THE GIRL IS STILL HEALTHY AND CHEERFULLY TENDS THE SICK EACH DAY

EXCUSE ME.. ARE YOU THE GIRL FROM THE VALLEY?
WHAT?
PLEASE IMPART SOME OF YOUR DIVINE POWER TO MY CHILD
TO MY CHILD TOO! PLEASE MAKE HER IMMUNE TO THE PLAGUE!
I'M GOING TO GET SOME WATER
I'LL GO WITH YOU
KLOP
KLOP
KLOP
DIVINE POWER? I DON'T HAVE ANY
IT'S BECAUSE YOU HAVEN'T CAUGHT THE FEVER.
THEY WANT YOU TO SHARE YOUR GOOD LUCK WITH THEM
JUST PLACE YOUR HAND ON THE CHILDREN'S HEADS
WILL. WILL THIS DO?
OH THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!
I WONDER WHY I HAVEN'T CAUGHT THE SEVEN DAY FEVER?
YOU SAID THAT IF SOMEONE CATCHES IT ONCE HE'D NEVER CATCH IT AGAIN, RIGHT?
COULD I HAVE HAD IT WITHOUT KNOWING IT?

GASP!
I'VE FOUND HER!
OH!
A PHYSICIAN ?!
YOU'RE THE GIRL WHO'S IMMUNE TO THE SEVEN DAY FEVER.
MAY I SPEAK WITH YOU? I'M A PHYSICIAN.
I'VE FOUND US A DOCTOR!
H-HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
THAT'S WONDERFUL! WILL YOU TREAT THE SICK PEOPLE IN THE VALLEY?
I'VE NEVER MET ANYONE LIKE YOU
ANY NORMAL GIRL WOULD'VE LEFT THIS PLACE THE MOMENT SHE GOT A HORSE UNDER HER
WHEN YOU'RE INFECTED WITH SEVEN DAY FEVER, YOU BREAK OUT IN SORES THAT LEAVE SCARS
DO YOU HAVE ANY SUCH SCARS?
SHAKE SHAKE
NO
THEN IT IS A MIRACLE AND YOU ARE A MYSTERY

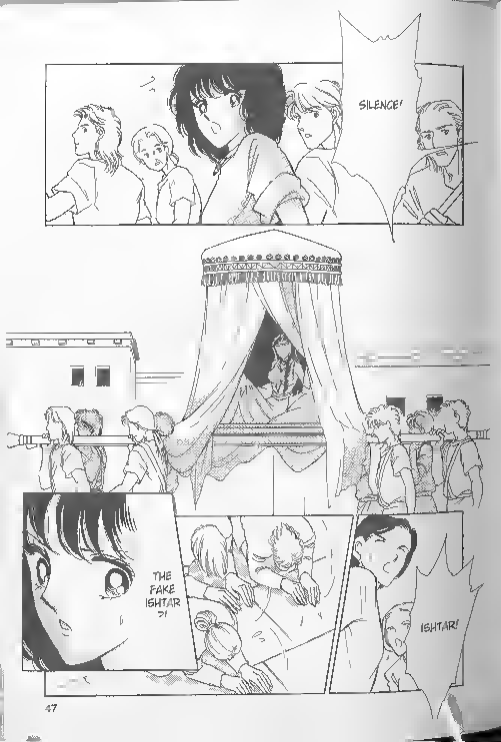
DID YOU HEAR THAT YOUNG MAN?
BUT WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING! WE CAN'T JUST LET THESE PEOPLE DIE!
LET'S GO ASLAN!
KLOP KLOP
THIS IS GETTING INTERESTING
W-WAIT YURI!
KLOP
I'M FED UP WITH THE MAYOR AND ISHTAR TOO I'M GOING WITH THE GIRL!
I'M GOING TO ASK THE MAYOR FOR HELP!
WE CAN'T GIVE UP WITHOUT TRYING!
WELL?
HOW DO THEY LOOK?
NOT GOOD
THEY WILL ALL DIE UNLESS CONDITIONS HERE IMPROVE
THAT'S TERRIBLE! ISN'T THERE ANYTHING WE CAN DO?
I HEARD YOU DENOUNCED THAT SELFISH WOMAN WHO CALLS HERSELF ISHTAR.
YOUR COURAGE IS INSPIRING THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE
THERE IS NO WAY TO SAVE THEM.
BUT THIS PLACE LACKS ALL THE THINGS THEY NEED TO GET WELL
THERE ARE NO MEDICINAL HERBS OR EVEN ENOUGH FOOD PEOPLE CAN'T FIGHT OFF THE FEVER THIS WAY
BUT THERE ARE MEDICINE AND FOOD STORES AT THE MAYOR'S PALACE AND THE CITY HALL, RIGHT?
HMPH THE MAYOR WOULD NEVER GIVE THEM TO THESE PEOPLE
HE'S TOO AFRAID OF ANGERING PRINCE KAIL'S CONCUBINE

IT'S NOT RIGHT THAT THE SICK AND THE POOR ARE STARVING
THOSE ARISTOCRATS HAVE PLENTY OF FOOD THEY CAN EASILY SPARE SOME FOR US
SURELY THE MAYOR WILL UNDERSTAND IF WE JUST EXPLAIN THE SITUATION
PLEASE! GIVE US FOOD AND MEDICINE FOR THE SICK AND THE POOR!
WE WANT TO SPEAK WITH THE MAYOR!

TARRUMP
TARRUMP
TARRUMP
TARRUMP
TARRUMP
WHAT'S THIS?
WHAT'S GOING ON?
ISN'T THAT THE GIRL FROM THE VALLEY?
ME TOO. WE'RE SO SHORTHANDED BECAUSE OF THE SEVEN DAY FEVER THAT THE WHOLE CITY IS RUNNING OUT OF FOOD
WHAT?!
THEN I'M GOING TOO!
THEY SAY THEY'RE GOING TO THE CITY HALL TO DEMAND MEDICINE AND FOOD FOR THE SICK!
RAAH!
RAAH!
HO! I'LL JOIN YOU!
HOW EXCITING! WE'LL STORM THE CITY HALL!
I KNEW SHE WAS NO ORDINARY GIRL BUT
THIS IS AMAZING!

PLEASE GIVE US A BIT OF THE FOOD FROM ISHTAR'S NIGHTLY BANQUETS!
PLEASE! WE'RE SHORT OF WORKERS AND WE'RE RUNNING OUT OF FOOD!
THE CITIZENS ARE STORMING CITY HALL AND THAT GIRL IS LEADING THE MOB!
WHAT SHALL WE DO?

DO YOU THINK THE MAYOR WOULD MEET WITH A LOW-BORN PEASANT GIRL?
SHUT UP YOU!
WILL YOU PLEASE TELL THE MAYOR WE'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO HIM?
FWUMP
OFF WITH YOU!!
GIVE US FOOD!
AND MEDICINE!
THE TOWNS-PEOPLE ?!
ARE YOU HURT?


SILENCE!
THE FAKE ISHTAR ?!
ISHTAR!

GIVE US MEDICINE!
PLEASE!
RAH
GIVE US FOOD!
RAH
YOU MUSTN'T ALLOW THE RABBLE TO HAVE IT'S WAY
JUST EXERCISE YOUR AUTHORITY AS ISHTAR AND COMMAND THEM TO DISPERSE
NEVER FEAR
BUT
DO YOU NOT WISH TO BECOME PRINCE KAIL'S CONCUBINE?
YOU HAVE TO BREAK THAT GIRL

GASP
THE SEVEN DAY FEVER?
TH-THAT CHILD HAS THE SEVEN DAY FEVER!
WHY DO YOU HESITATE? THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO BOLSTER YOUR POPULARITY
TOUCH THE CHILD'S HEAD
B-BUT THEY SAID HE HAS THE SEVEN DAY FEVER.
DON'T YOU WANT TO IMPRESS PRINCE KAIL SO HE'LL FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU?
AND THAT CHILD IS THE SON OF A RICH MERCHANT. IT'S NOT A BAD IDEA TO GAIN HIS FATHER'S SUPPORT

HOW IS ASKING FOR FOOD DEFYING THE EMPIRE?
I CAN DO WHATEVER I LIKE WITH MY FOOD
YOU HAVE SO MUCH FOOD YOU'RE THROWING IT AWAY!
OR DO YOU DARE TO DEFY THE EMPIRE?!
WHY ...L THE SCREAM-ING?
I ORDER YOU TO DISPERSE IMMEDIATELY !!
WHAT?
PLEASE SHARE YOUR GOOD FORTUNE WITH MY SON.
ISHTAR

OH, ISHTAR
KLAK
MY SON!
HOW DARE YOU BRING A VICTIM OF THE SEVEN DAY FEVER NEAR ISHTAR!
SWIP
NO
I CAN'T TOUCH HIM!

WAA..H!
WHAT A HEART-LESS WOMAN
WAAAH!
B UT EVERYONE FEARS THE SEVEN DAY FEVER.
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
WAAH!

WE'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM IN THE VALLEY!
THE VALLEY SHOULDN'T BE A PLACE WHERE VICTIMS GO TO DIE! IT SHOULD BE A PLACE OF HEALING!
WAAAH
WAAAH
SO PLEASE!
GIVE US FOOD AND MEDICINE!
WAAAH!
RIGHT DOCTOR?
THAT'S RIGHT HIS CONDITION ISN'T SERIOUS HE JUST NEEDS MEDICINE

WAAAH!
IT'S OKAY... YOU'RE A GOOD BOY
THERE NOW DON'T CRY

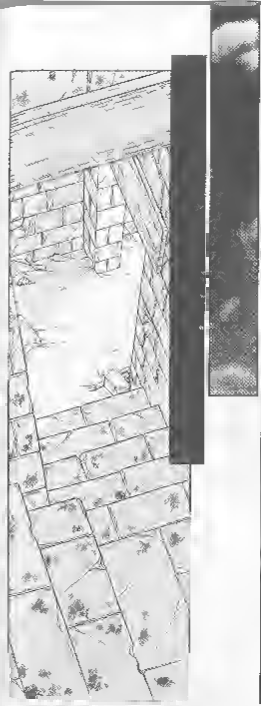
IF ONLY WE COULD SOMEHOW INFECT BABIES WITH A VERY WEAK STRAIN OF THE DISEASE. THEY COULD DEVELOP AN IMMUNITY
AND FEWER PEOPLE WOULD DIE OF THE SEVEN DAY FEVER.
RAAH
CHILDREN RECOVER MORE OFTEN THAN ADULTS DO
RAAH
RAAH
INFECT THEM ON PURPOSE?
THAT'S THE CONCEPT OF VACCINATION
OH, BUT IT HASN'T BEEN INVENTED YET
GASP
VACCINATION ?!

I WAS VACCINATED AGAINST DISEASES LIKE SMALLPOX WHEN I WAS LITTLE.
I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT THE SEVEN DAY FEVER IS BUT ONE OF MY VACCINATIONS MUST HAVE PROTECTED ME FROM IT!
THAT'S WHY I HAVEN'T CAUGHT THE SEVEN DAY FEVER! I WAS VACCINATED!
IF YOU DON'T, YOU'LL BE UNDERMINING YOURSELF AS ISHTAR.
URHI?!
LISTEN!
HAVE THAT GIRL THROWN INTO PRISON FOR INCITING REBELLION.

KLANK
GET IN THERE!
LET ME OUT
THIS ISN'T JUSTICE!
LISTEN TO ME! I WANT TO SPEAK TO THE MAYOR!
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
NOW I CAN'T GET BACK TO HATTUSA, LET ALONE EXPOSE THAT PHONY ISHTAR
AND I CAN'T EVEN GET WORD TO PRINCE KAIL FROM HERE

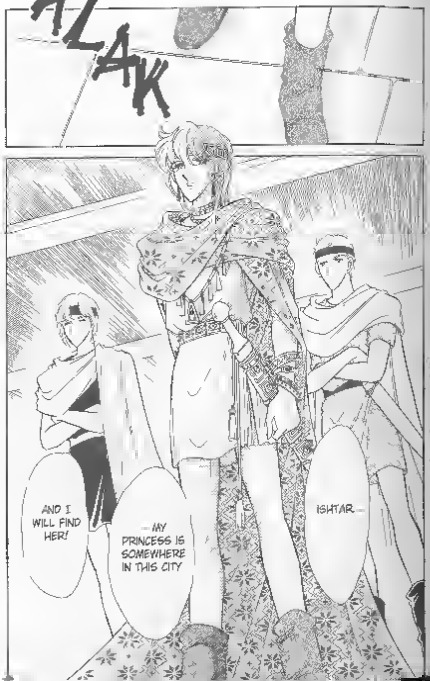
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?
IT IS UNFORGIVABLE TO DEFY PRINCE KAIL & CONCUBINE TWICE!
KLANK
THROW HER INTO PRISON!
AND ANYONE ELSE WHO DEFIES ISHTAR WILL JOIN HER!

PRINCE KAIL HAS OPENED THE STATE TREASURY
TO DELIVER FOOD AND MEDICINE THROUGHOUT THE EMPIRE
FOOD?
HERE'S YOUR FOOD
ISN'T THERE A FOOD SHORTAGE?
BUT YOU FEED YOUR PRISONERS?



I FAILED TO KILL HER WITH THE SEVEN DAY FEVER, BUT THIS DEVELOPMENT IS MOST PROMISING
NOW I'LL HAVE MY ISHTAR PERSUADE THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THAT LITTLE BEST

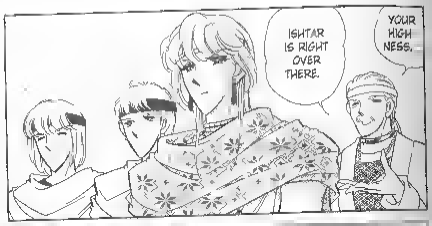
HOW ARROGANT OF ME TO THINK THAT HE NEEDED MY HELP
THE PEOPLE KNOW WHO PRINCE KAIL IS I DIDN'T NEED TO WORRY
EVERYONE KNOWS THAT PRINCE KAIL ALWAYS DOES WHAT IS BEST FOR THE EMPIRE AND HIS PEOPLE
PRINCE KAIL'S APPROACH IS TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF THE QUEEN SHE BUILT THE HOUSES OF REST JUST TO ENHANCE HER OWN POPULARITY
THE AID IS BEING GIVEN IN THE NAME OF THE EMPEROR, BUT
PRINCE KAIL REALLY RUNS THIS COUNTRY NO DOUBT IT WAS HIS IDEA
IT TAKES TIME TO DISTRIBUTE THINGS ACROSS SO VAST AN EMPIRE
I THINK THE AID HAS EVEN REACHED THE VALLEY BY NOW IT'S NO ONE'S FAULT THAT IT TOOK SO LONG FOR THE SUPPLIES TO REACH KATAPA


KLAK
AND I WILL FIND HER!
—MY PRINCESS IS SOMEWHERE IN THIS CITY
ISHTAR—

PALACE OF THE ROYAL FAMILY
MAYOR!
LORD MAYOR!
WHAT?! PRINCE KAIL IS HERE?!
P-PRINCE KAIL...
—HAS COME TO KATAPA YOUR HONOR!

OH DEAR, PRINCE KAIL...
I WELCOME YOU TO KATAPA WITH OPEN ARMS AND A HEART FILLED WITH GRATITUDE!
I WAS THROWN INTO PRISON BECAUSE I FORGOT WHO I REALLY WAS
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP
I WAS STUPID! BEING CALLED ISHTAR MUST HAVE GIVEN ME A BIG HEAD.
HOW SILLY OF ME TO THINK THAT I COULD DO ANYTHING TO HELP PRINCE KAIL.
I'M STILL JUST AN ORDINARY HIGH SCHOOL GIRL...
PLIP

Y-YES, I DID, BUT...
NO NEED TO PANIC. YOU TOLD ME YOU COULD MAKE PRINCE KAIL FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU.
URH!
WH-IT SHALL I DO? I DIDN'T EXPECT PRINCE KAIL TO COME HERE!
BUT THAT PLAN WON'T WORK NOW...
I HAD HOPED TO RID MYSELF OF THE REAL ISHTAR BY HAVING HER IMPRISONED...
IF YOU CAN MAKE HIM LOVE YOU, THEN THE FALSE ISHTAR CAN BECOME THE REAL ONE
THE REAL ONE?
IT'S A GRAVE CRIME TO IMPERSONATE ISHTAR
IF YOU WANT TO AVOID PUNISHMENT YOU HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO SEDUCE THE PRINCE
I'M HERE ONLY TO BRING ISHTAR HOME.
DON'T BOTHER.
I'LL HAVE QUARTERS PREPARED FOR YOU IMMEDIATELY!
IF I HAD KNOWN YOU WERE COMING, I WOULD HAVE GONE TO THE BORDER TO WELCOME YOU!
TAKE ME TO THE HALL
YES, YOUR HIGHNESS! THIS WAY PLEASE!
AH, YES ISHTAR IS IN THE BACK HALL
SHE IS TRULY AN ENCHANTING CREATURE


YOUR HIGH NESS.
ISHTAR IS RIGHT OVER THERE.

gulp

ISHTAR?! HER?!
YOUR HIGH NESS!

TMP

I'VE HAD MY FILL OF POVERTY!
I'LL DO IT
I'LL BECOME HIS CONCUBINE AND LIVE OUT MY DAYS IN LUXURY.
A REAL CONCUBINE?
HIS HIGHNESS PRINCE KAL-MURSU, BROTHER OF HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR,
STANDS BEFORE YOU

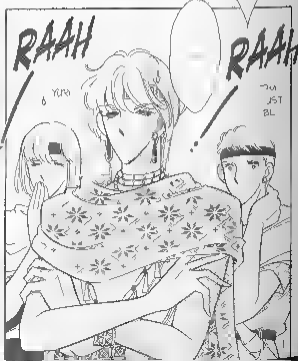
RUSTLE

I'VE LONGED FOR THIS MOMENT!
YOUR HIGHNESS I LOVE YOU SO!
SWOOP
PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR USING THE NAME OF ISHTAR! I ONLY DID IT OUT OF LOVE FOR YOU
PLEASE LOVE ME AS YOU DO ISHTAR!
I PROMISE I'LL NEVER BORE YOU
IT SEEMS THAT LIVING A PAMPERED LIFE AS ISHTAR HAS MADE YOU FORGET
70
THAT A CRIME AGAINST THE ROYAL FAMILY
IS PUNISHABLE BY DEATH
B-BUT YOUR HIGHNESS AM I NOT BEAUTIFUL ?
DO YOU NOT DESIRE ME?
DON'T FLATTER YOUR SELF
WOMEN OF GREATER BEAUTY
AND WITH MORE ALLURING BODIES ARE IN NO SHORT SUPPLY IN HATTUSA
IS THIS WOMAN NOT ISHTAR ?!
PRINCE KAIL WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?
71

SHE'S ACCOMPANIED BY A PRIEST WHO ACTS AS HER GUARD. IN HE ALWAYS KEEPS HIS FACE COVERED WITH A BLACK SHAWL...
HOW DARE SHE IMPERSONATE ISHTAR!
ARREST HER!
OH!
THEN, WHAT OF HER MAN?
THROB
IMPERSONATE? SHE'S AN INCARNATOR?!
THROB
I'VE NEVER SEEN...
...THIS WOMAN BEFORE
WUZ

A MOB HAS STORMED THE CITY HALL AND IS DEMANDING THE JAIL BE OPENED!
FORGIVE ME, YOUR HONOR ...
BUT THE CITIZENS IRE RIOTING!

WHAT? THEY'RE BREAKING INTO THE JAIL?


RAAH
RAAH

EH?
THE REAL ISHTAR IS ALSO IN KATAPA?
WHERE IS SHE?
MAYOR,
I CAME HERE TO TAKE THE REAL ISHTAR HOME.

YES
THOUGH I WISH SHE WOULD REMAIN SAFELY INSIDE MY PALACE
LET ME REPHRASE THE QUESTION
TROUBLE? THERE IS NO TROUBLE
WHERE IN KATAPA ARE YOU HAVING TROUBLE RIGHT NOW?
LORD MAYOR THERE IS AN UPRISING!
SILENCE YOU ROGUE!
THIS IS HIS HIGHNESS PRINCE KAIL!

HGH!
WUMP
KRAK
KRASH
KRASH
BOOM
BOOM
WHAT'S THAT?
WHAT'S THAT NOISE?!
WE'RE HERE TO GET YOU OUT!
YLIRI!
KURK?!

THAT'S RIGHT!
SHE WAS ONLY SPEAKING FOR ALL OF US!
GIVE US THE GIRL FROM THE VALLEY!
SHE SPOKE FOR ALL OF US! SHE COMMITTED NO CRIME!

LET HER GO OR WE'LL STORM THE JAIL!
HUSBAND...
EVERYONE ELSE REFUSED TO TOUCH HIM, BUT SHE HELD HIM AND SAID SHE WOULD CARE FOR HIM
THAT GIRL HELD MY SON WHO HAS THE SEVEN DAY FEVER!

SHE COMMITTED NO CRIME!
GIVE US BACK THE GIRL!

WHAT HAVE I DONE?
I'VE BEEN NO HELP TO PRINCE KAIL AT ALL
—I GOT MYSELF THROWN INTO PRISON AND HAD TO BE SAVED BY THESE PEOPLE
INSTEAD OF EXPOSING THAT WOMAN AS A FAKE
THANK THE GODS YOU'RE BACK! HOW ARE YOU?
DID THEY MISTREAT YOU?
THANK YOU FOR FREEING ME.
I'M SORRY I CAUSED YOU SO MUCH TROUBLE
WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIZING? WE WANT TO THANK YOU!
THE WAY YOU SHOUTED AT THE MAYOR AND ISHTAR INSPIRED US ALL!
HERE, HAVE SOME SOUP WE HAVE DRIED MEAT TOO
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU LOOK SAD
I SHOULD SHOW THEM MY GRATITUDE FOR RESCUING ME
I CAN BE SAD LATER
ALL RIGHT! LET ME HELP DISTRIBUTE THE SOUP!

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
YOU'LL ALL BE PUNISHED TOO
WE DON'T CARE
HE'S RIGHT ALMOST THE WHOLE CITY IS INVOLVED!
THEY CAN'T ARREST ALL OF US!
LET'S RETURN TO THE VALLEY
SINCE PRINCE KAIL HAD FOOD AND MEDICINE BROUGHT TO US.
LIFE IS MUCH BETTER THERE
WELCOME BACK!
WELCOME BACK!
OH! THEY'RE BACK.

SHE WAS ALWAYS LOVELY!!
I THOUGHT SHE WAS ONLY A CHILD, BUT SHE GROWS LOVELIER ALL THE TIME.
EH?
IF YOU ARE TO BE A LEADER, YOU'LL NEED A GOOD WOMAN BY YOUR SIDE
THE WIFE OF THE 14TH EMPEROR, QUEEN NAKIA AND ISHTAR ARE PROOF OF THAT
IT'S TRAGIC THE WAY A BAD WOMAN CAN UNDERMINE A GREAT MAN'S ACHIEVEMENTS
WILL YOU NOT INHERIT YOUR FATHER'S POSITION AS MAYOR ONE DAY?
THE MAYOR'S SUN? YOU HAVE A GOOD EYE FOR WOMEN.
BUT THAT GIRL YURI IS THE OPPOSITE OF THOSE TWO
I BELIEVE SHE WOULD MAKE AN EXCELLENT QUEEN
SHE'S FROM AN ALIEN RACE AND SHE HAS LITTLE WOMANLY CHARM, YET
YES SHE'S TINY AND YET SO FULL OF LIFE
I COULD WATCH HER ALL DAY
THAT GIRL
LOOKS SO BEAUTIFUL WHEN SHE'S WORKING HARD
SHE'S NOT STRIKINGLY BEAUTIFUL, BUT
SHE SEEMS TO GROW MORE BEAUTIFUL BEFORE ONE'S VERY EYES
SHE'S A MOST INTERESTING GIRL

WHAT ?!
HIS HIGHNESS PRINCE KAIL MURSILI IS HERE!
PRINCE KAIL?!
PRINCE KAIL!!
IN THE FLESH ?!
HE NEEDS TO DEVELOP A GOOD EYE FOR WOMEN!
THAT IN ADDITION TO LEADERSHIP AND MARTIAL PROWESS
YOU'RE DRUNK
IF I EVER MEET PRINCE KAIL I'LL TELL HIM...
I... I...I'M NOT...
BLUSH
TUP
THAT WILL COME IN TIME!
SO WHAT IF SHE LACKS WOMANLY CHARM?
HE NEEDS A GIRL LIKE YURI!
SILENCE!!
COMPORT YOURSELVES...
WITH REVERENCE!

PLEASE HEAR ME, YOUR HIGHNESS!
I I DO HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY TO PRINCE KAIL!
GULP
IT'S ALL RIGHT I'LL HEAR HIS WORDS
WHAT A RUDE FELLOW!
HOW DARE YOU SPEAK TO HIS HIGHNESS DIRECTLY
BUT FIRST BRING ISHTAR TO ME
WHAT ?!

LOWER YOUR HEAD... GIRL!
WHAT'S PRINCE KAIL DOING HERE?
DIDN'T YOU WANT TO SAY SOMETHING TO PRINCE KAIL?
ARE YOU INSANE ?!
WELL?
PERHAPS HE'S ANGRY BECAUSE WE ATTACKED THE CITY HALL?
I HAVE NO IDEA
WH-WHY IS PRINCE KAIL HERE?

OF COURSE WE DO
ISHTAR HAS
BLACK HAIR
AND BLACK EYES
AND SHE'S A PRINCESS FROM A FAR LAND
A PRINCESS FROM A FAR LAND?!
BLACK EYES!
BLACK HAIR!
AND SHE HAS AN UNUSUAL BEAUTY THAT ATTRACTS EVERYONE TO HER..

WUZZ
WUZZ
ISHTAR IS IN THE P..CE ON THE HILL... IS SHE NOT?
ISHTAR..
DO YOU PEOPLE.. KNOW WHAT ISHTAR LOOKS LIKE?
PRINCE KAIL..

IS... IS IT POSSIBLE?
AND WHEN SHE DOES THIS, I LIE AWAKE AT NIGHT WORRYING ABOUT HER
BUT MY ISHTAR SOMETIMES FLIES FROM ME LIKE A BIRD

I COULD WATCH HER ALL DAY
AN UNUSUAL BEAUTY
THAT ATTRACTS EVERY-ONE
SHE SEEMS TO GROW MORE BEAUTIFUL BEFORE ONE'S VERY EYES
I AM VERY MUCH IN LOVE WITH HER.
AS EVERYONE IN THE EMPIRE KNOWS

YURI IS THE REAL ISHTAR ?!
OH!
I AM SORRY PRINCE KAIL!
DID YOU KNOW THAT YURI?

KIKKURI KASH?
YOU DON'T NEED TO APOLOGIZE PRINCE KAIL.
THE SEVEN DAY FEVER
AS AM I WE WERE AFRAID YOU D CON-TRACTED
PRINCESS YURI I'M SO GLAD YOU RE ALL RIGHT
I WANTED TO COME HERE SOONER, BUT ...
I HAD AFFAIRS OF STATE TO ATTEND TO FORGIVE ME
PRINCE KAIL.
LET ME INTRODUCE HER TO YOU THIS IS MY ONE AND ONLY PRINCESS
SHE IS THE WOMAN THEY CALL ISHTAR
SHE SHE CAN'T BE
SHAKE SHAKE
THE GIRL WE THREW IN JAIL WAS ISHTAR?
YURI IS THE REAL ISHTAR?
AND SHE S PRINCE KAIL S CONCUBINE

PUT ME DOWN, PRINCE KAIL.
I DIDN'T DO ANY-THING WORTHY OF YOUR PRAISE.
YURI?
HURRY HURRY
I CAME TO THIS TOWN BECAUSE I COULDN'T STAND IT THAT A FAKE ISHTAR WAS TARNISHING YOUR REPU-TATION
BUT I'M AFRAID I MAY HAVE DAMAGED YOUR REPU-TATION TOO

THROB THROB
WHAT SHOULD WE DO YOUR HIGHNESS?
WELL, IT WAS BECAUSE
WE PUT HER IN JAIL
YOUR HIGHNESS
I WAS THROWN INTO JAIL...
AND THE PEOPLE HAD TO BREAK ME OUT...
WHAT HAPPENED?

PLEASE...
...PUT ME DOWN!

OH THAT'S RIGHT!
YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE PRINCE KAIL!
WHAT IF YOU GET INFECTED?

SINCE I AM WITH ISHTAR, I SHOULD BE ALL RIGHT
I HEAR YOU HAVEN'T CONTRACTED THE DISEASE
THE TOWN'S PEOPLE SAY THAT YOUR BLESSING CAN PROTECT ONE FROM THE FEVER

THAT'S NOT TRUE IT'S JUST A RUMOR.
WON'T YOU GIVE ME YOUR BLESSING?
I CAN'T!
I AM NOT THE SAINT THE PEOPLE THINK I AM!

WHAT?
DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT'S TRUE?
I CAN'T DO ANYTHING WITHOUT YOUR HELP

AND I WASN'T ABLE TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT THE FAKE ISHTAR!
IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE I WAS VACCINATED IN JAPAN
IT'S NOT BECAUSE I DID SOMETHING GOOD FOR THIS TOWN THAT I DIDN'T GET THE DISEASE
OH NO I PROMISED MYSELF I'D KEEP A POSITIVE ATTITUDE BUT AS SOON AS I SAW PRINCE KAL I STARTED TO FEEL BAD ABOUT MYSELF
AND NOW I'M WHINING

OH NO I DON'T NEED TO SAY IT ANYMORE
PLEASE FORGET WHAT I SAID
DON'T HOLD BACK TELL ME
...HE NEEDS TO DEVELOP A GOOD EYE FOR WOMEN!
PIP
...IN ADDITION TO STRONG LEADERSHIP AND MILITARY EXPERTISE...
GULP
I.
I WANTED TO SAY

YOU WANTED TO SAY SOMETHING TO ME EARLIER I WANT TO HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY
TELL ME NOW
SOLDIER!
HUH?
I MEAN YOU WITH BEARD.
YOU'RE IN KATAPA'S INFANTRY, AREN'T YOU?
THAT'S RIGHT... I'M TALKING TO YOU

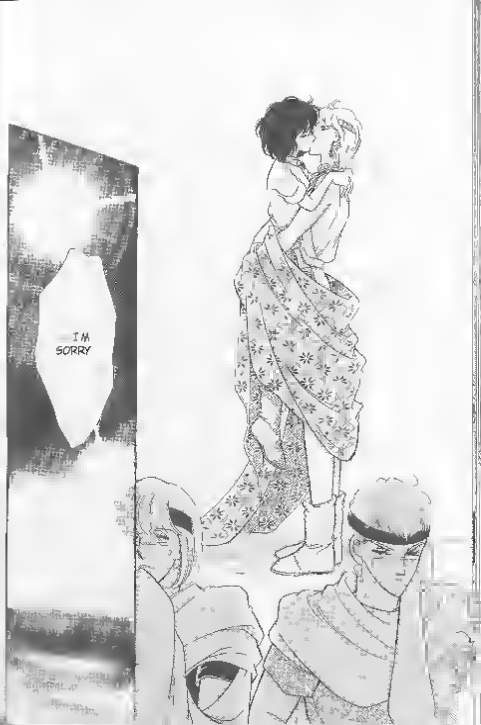
...I WILL BE HAPPY.....
WITH ALL DUE RESPECT
...WHO CHOSES YURI AS HIS WOMAN
...TO OFFER MY LIFE AT ANY TIME FOR THE MAN.

...THE BREAKOUT AT THE CITY PRISON
W-WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT.....
...THAT THE LADY IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR.
WE TOOK IT UPON OURSELVES BECAUSE WE LIKE HER SO MUCH
I I'M VERY PLEASED TO LEARN...
...THAT MISS YURI IS THE REAL ISHTAR

I WISH YOU WERE THE SORT OF WOMAN... WHO ALWAYS NEEDED MY HELP...
RAAH
YOU HAVE THE BEST CONCUBINE OF THE ORIENT AT YOUR SIDE!
HAIL TO HIS HIGHNESS!
PRINCE K...?!
LONG LIVE... PRINCE KAIL!
?!
PRINCE KAIL
AAH
YOU ARE AN EXCELLENT LEADER!
LONG LIVE ISHTAR!!

I WOULD....
NOW, BLESS ME... WITH YOUR KISS.
PRINCE KAIL ?!
RAAH
IF YOU REALLY FEEL SORRY FOR WHAT YOU HAVE DONE.
I WANT YOU TO APOLOGIZE BY KISSING ME
RAAAH
WHY DO I HAVE TO KISS YOU NOW?
I WON'T LET YOU DOWN UNTIL YOU KISS ME
BE VERY HAPPY TO PROTECT YOU

CITY HALL
WHAAAT ?!
THAT GIRL WHO I THOUGHT WAS A MAID IS THE REAL ISHTAR ?!
WH WHAT SHOULD I DO? I WAS SO MEAN TO HER..
I THREW HER IN JAIL..
I I KICKED HER
SHALL BE EXECUTED OR DEPORTED!
ALL WHO ACTED DISRESPECT-FULLY TO PRINCESS YURI


I M SORRY

THIS WOMAN?
BUT WHAT SHALL BE THE PUNISHMENT FOR THIS WOMAN?
FOR FORGIVING ME!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU.
THUD
HAS HE BEEN CAPTURED?
THERE WAS A MAN DIRECTING HER ACTIONS
THE FALSE ISHTAR?

EEK!
WELL YOU SHOULD ALL THANK THE GODS.
SO SEVERE A PUNISHMENT!
I THAT NEITHER PRINCE KAIL NOR ISHTAR WOULD EVER DEMAND
PHEW
YES YOUR HIGHNESS
THAT'S ENOUGH KASH
YURI IS ALSO AT FAULT FOR NOT PRESENTING HERSELF AS A PRINCESS.

I WAS BORN IN A POOR VILLAGE ON THE WESTERN FRONTIER
IT WAS WIPED OUT BY THE SEVEN DAY FEVER.
MY PARENTS AND LITTLE BROTHERS DIED AFTER SUFFERING TERRIBLY
I WANTED LUXURY AND SECURITY IF ONLY FOR A SHORT TIME
I DIDN'T CARE IF I WAS FOUND OUT!

HE WILL SOON BE APPREHENDED
I SENT MY MEN TO ARREST HIM.
SEND HER OFF TO SOME REMOTE CORNER OF THE EMPIRE AS A SLAVE!
SHE'S LUCKY ENOUGH TO KEEP HER HEAD!
I'VE NEVER ENCOUNTERED A CASE LIKE THIS BEFORE
WHAT SHOULD I DO ABOUT THE WOMAN?
YOU MUST'VE KNOWN YOU'D BE FOUND OUT SOONER OR LATER
MISS
WHY DID YOU DO IT?

EVERY GIRL IN THE EMPIRE DREAMS OF SERVING IN THE IMPERIAL COURT!
BUT THAT'S NO PUNISHMENT!
WE CAN'T BRING THIS TREACHEROUS CREATURE INTO THE PALACE!
ATCHOO!
HADI AND HER SISTERS TRIED TO MURDER ME ONCE.
VERY WELL URSULA
ARE YOU WILLING TO SERVE PRINCESS YURI?
WHAT IS YOUR REAL NAME?
U-URSULA YOUR HIGHNESS
IS THAT ACCEPTABLE TO YOU, PRINCE KAI?

THE SEVEN DAY FEVER HAS CLAIMED THOUSANDS OF LIVES!
YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS SUFFERED!
SHE DESERVES BONDAGE AND SERVITUDE
I NEVER WANTED TO HAVE TO EAT THE ROOTS OF TREES TO SURVIVE AGAIN!
I...I DIDN'T WANT TO DIE MISERABLY LIKE THEY DID!
THEN IT'S SETTLED! SHE'LL BE BANISHED TO A REMOTE OUTPOST
PRINCESS YURI?
I THINK WE SHOULD MAKE HER WORK.
I AGREE
SO SHE WILL WORK FOR ME AS MY HANDMAID
WE'RE SHORT ON STAFF AT THE PALACE.
I HAVE A BETTER IDEA

YOUR HIGHNESS
WE SHOULD RETURN TO HATTUSA AS SOON AS THIS MATTER IS SETTLED
YES. THIS IS NO TIME FOR YOU TO BE AWAY FROM THE CAPITAL. THE ISSUE OF THE NEW CROWN PRINCE HAS YET TO BE DECIDED
WHAT'S BEEN GOING ON IN HATTUSA WHILE I WAS AWAY?
PRINCE KAL OR PRINCE JUDA?
WHO WILL IT BE?
THAT'S RIGHT! THE COUNTRY'S SPLIT OVER WHO THE NEW CROWN PRINCE SHOULD BE.
VERY WELL.
YES, YOUR HIGHNESS... WITH ALL MY HEART...
SHE'S A FAR BETTER PERSON THAN I AM!
I WOULD BE HONORED TO SERVE THE REAL ISHTAR
SHE PICKED UP A CHILD WHO HAD THE SEVEN DAY FEVER
I LOST MY FAMILY TO THAT SICKNESS YET I COULDN'T BRING MYSELF TO TOUCH THE CHILD
NOW SHE'S ALLOWING ME TO WORK FOR HER IN THE PALACE.

HATTUSA, CAPITAL OF THE HITTITE EMPIRE
WELCOME HOME PRINCESS YURI!
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT! THANK THE GODS!
OH
HELLO GIRLS
I'M GLAD YOU'VE RETURNED SAFELY PRINCESS
HI ILBANI I'M SORRY I WORRIED EVERYONE
IS THERE ANY WORD ABOUT WHO WILL BE THE NEW CROWN PRINCE?
IS THERE ANYTHING WE CAN DO TO HELP PRINCE KAIL?
THE ARISTOCRATS SUPPORT QUEEN NAKIA, WHILE PRINCE KAIL HAS THE ARMY BEHIND HIM. THE SENATE IS DIVIDED ALMOST EVENLY
RIGHT NOW IT COULD GO EITHER WAY
THE COMMONERS ARE THE KEY
OF COURSE THEIR VOICE WON'T COUNT AS MUCH AS THE ARISTOCRATS
AND QUEEN NAKIA IS WORKING HARD TO BOLSTER HER SON'S POPULARITY I CAN'T SAY HOW IT WILL TURN OUT.
THE SENATE?
AT ANY RATE THE DECISION WILL BE MADE IN THE NEXT SESSION OF THE SENATE

PRINCESS YURI
THERE'S THE QUEEN DOWAGER
I WONDER HOW MANY OF THEM SUPPORT PRINCE KAIL
OF COURSE THE CITIZENS RARELY HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THE ROYAL FAMILY
WHAT A HUGE CROWD! HATTUSA IS PACKED!
RAAH
RAAH
YES IT SHOULD BE QUITE FESTIVE ALL TITUDES WILL BE COMING TO HATTUSA TO ATTEND
A PUBLIC CELEBRATION? HOW FUN
I CAME BACK TO ATTEND THE CEREMONY
BEFORE THE SENATE CONVENES THERE WILL BE A PUBLIC CELEBRATION FOR MY BROTHER'S CORONATION
THE CELEBRATION OF THE NEW EMPEROR
I'M MORE INTERESTED IN WHO THE NEW CROWN PRINCE WILL BE

PRINCE KAIL!!
RRWUBB
PRINCESS YURI HERE COMES PRINCE KAIL!
PRINCE JUDA!
LONG LIVE THE QUEEN DOWAGER!
RAAAAAAHHH
RAAAAHH
I CAN'T BELIEVE SO MANY PEOPLE ARE CHEERING FOR NAKIA... AND MANY OF THEM ARE COMMONERS!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT EITHER...
IS EVERYONE SUPPORTING QUEEN NAKIA? WHERE'S THE SUPPORT FOR PRINCE KAIL?

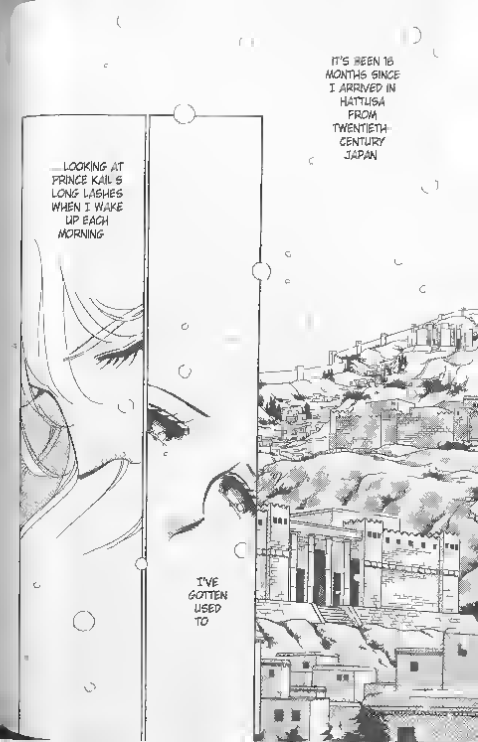
OH!
WH-WHAT'S HAPPENING?
THE WHOLE CITY IS TREMBLING!
LONG LIVE PRINCE KAIL!!
LONG LIVE ISHTAR!!
LONG LIVE THE CROWN PRINCE!!
LONG LIVE PRINCE KAIL!!

THE SENATE ASSEMBLES BEFORE THE THRONE
I, ARNU-WANDA II,
NAME MY BROTHER, PRINCE KAIL MURSILI
—CROWN PRINCE OF THE EMPIRE!
I'M SURE THERE ARE NO OBJECTIONS!
CROWN PRINCE KAIL!
TOMP
EVEN QUEEN NAKIA
—CAN TELL WHO THE NEXT CROWN PRINCE SHALL BE
ANYONE WHO HEARS THIS ROAR...
DMMMMBBB
LONG LIVE THE CROWN PRINCE!
LONG LIVE PRINCE KAIL!

CURSE YOU, KAIL. I'LL SEE THAT YOUR TENURE AS CROWN PRINCE IS SHORT-LIVED!
CONGRATULATIONS PRINCE KAIL!!
HAIL THE NEW CROWN PRINCE!!
CROWN PRINCE KAIL MURSILI
THE SENATE HAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED PRINCE KAIL'S APPOINTMENT AS CROWN PRINCE.
KLAK

I'M GOING BACK TO JAPAN NO MATTER WHAT.
I MEAN IT. WINTER WILL BE HERE SOON...
...AND THEN SPRING. AND WHEN THE WET SEASON ARRIVES
I'M SO HAPPY! NOW PEACE AND STABILITY ARE ENSURED!
CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU, TOO, PRINCESS YURI!
YAY
HOORAY! PRINCE KAIL IS THE CROWN PRINCE!
OF COURSE! WHO ELSE IS AS QUALIFIED?
THIS IS WONDERFUL!
PRINCE KAIL IS THE CROWN PRINCE!
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT, HADI.
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF MARRYING PRINCE KAIL.
IT'S NOT FAIR TO EXCLUDE YOU JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE A CONCUBINE NO ONE DESERVES TO BE THERE MORE THAN YOU!
RAMSES.
HMPH. WHY WASN'T THE PERSON WHO HELPED THE PRINCE THE MOST INVITED TO THE ROYAL CELEBRATION?
RAMSES IS RIGHT. IT'S TIME YOU WERE THE PRINCE'S LAWFUL WIFE PRINCESS YURI!

WHEN I WAKE UP
—IN HIS ARMS
SHIVER
IT'S SO COLD


IT'S BEEN 18 MONTHS SINCE I ARRIVED IN HATTUSA FROM TWENTIETH CENTURY JAPAN
—LOOKING AT PRINCE KAIL'S LONG LASHES WHEN I WAKE UP EACH MORNING
I'VE GOTTEN USED TO

THE SPRING WILL BRING... THE WET SEASON, RIGHT?
WE CAN'T HAVE SUMMER ALL YEAR ROUND
THE PEOPLE OF ANATOLIA CALL WINTER THE SEASON OF EARTH. IN WINTER PEOPLE AWAIT THE SPRING WHILE THEY COPE WITH THE HARSH WEATHER
I'M SURPRISED. IT'S SO HOT AND DRY HERE IN SUMMER, AND YET IT SNOWS IN WINTER
AND THEN I'LL GO BACK TO JAPAN.
ANATOLIA IS HIGH ABOVE SEA LEVEL AND ITS CLIMATE IS EXTREME
ANATOLIA IS ON ABOUT THE SAME LATITUDE AS NORTH EASTERN JAPAN

?!
HUH? WHAT'S WRONG YURI?
OH! SNOW!
YES I WAS IN THE MITANNI KINGDOM WITH YOUR TROOPS LAST WINTER.
OH YES.
THIS IS YOUR FIRST WINTER IN ANATOLIA

PRINCE KAIL HAS JUST RETURNED TO THE PALACE
HE'LL BE EXHAUSTED FROM FULFILLING HIS DUTIES AS BOTH COMMANDER IN CHIEF AND CROWN PRINCE. WE MUST SERVE HIM A HOT MEAL.
THE SEVEN DAY FEVER HAS SUBSIDED WITH THE WINTER, BUT THERE'S STILL LOTS OF WORK TO DO
ALL RIGHT YOU THREE! STOP GOSSIPING AND GET BACK TO WORK!
YES MAD!
OH NO PRINCESS YURI I COULDN'T ASK YOU TO...
YOU'RE SO BUSY CAN I HELP WITH ANY THING?
URSULA ?!
IF PRINCESS YURI WANTS TO HELP US PERHAPS WE SHOULD LET HER.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT.
THEY SLEEP IN THE SAME BED EVERY NIGHT, YET NOTHING HAS HAPPENED BETWEEN THEM?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH PRINCE KAIL AND PRINCESS YURI?
ARE YOU SO SURE THAT NOTHING HAS HAPPENED URSULA?
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT PRINCE KAIL BUT IT'S OBVIOUS THAT PRINCESS YURI HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF MEN.
OF COURSE I AM
ALL OF YOU ARE VERY KIND AND CAPABLE BUT
—YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO FOSTER ROMANCE BETWEEN THOSE TWO
THAT'S IT! I'VE DISCOVERED MY MISSION HERE!
IT'S MY JOB TO SEE THAT THEY MARRY!
HOORAY!
KLAP KLAP KLAP KLAP

EH? YURI?
SPLASH
OH GOD, HE'S SO BEAUTIFUL...
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
...ALL RIGHT.
WOULD YOU PLEASE POUR ME SOME WINE?
OH, THANK YOU.
...BROUGHT YOUR CLOTHES ...
UM.. WELL, I'VE... UH...
WHAT?
HERE ARE HIS CLOTHES
PRINCE KAIL IS TAKING A BATH RIGHT NOW
WOULD YOU PLEASE GO WASH HIM?
WAIT...
TAKE A BATH WITH HIM?
WHUP
HERE YOU GO.
TAKE A BATH WITH HIM, IF YOU WANT
GASP
I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE BRING ME THE WINE WILL YOU?
GOOD JOB URSULA !!
WHO IS IT?

OF COURSE YOU ARE! YOU'RE IN MY BATH!
SPLASH
HA HA HA!
IT'S NOT FUNNY! I'M SOAKED!
STOP IT, YOU DRUNK!
I— I'M GOING TO CHANGE!
I'M ALL RIGHT THE SCAR ON MY BACK JUST HURTS SOMETIMES
WHAT'S WRONG?
ZING
OUCH!

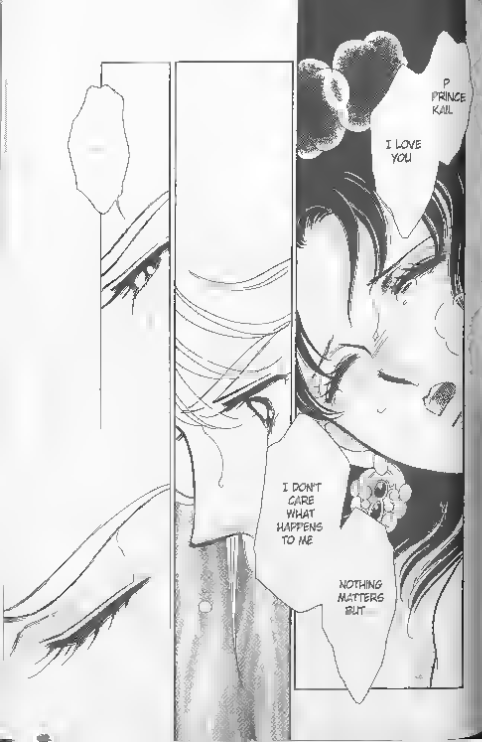
HE'S PRACTICALLY RUNNING THE WHOLE EMPIRE FOR HIS BROTHER
PHEW
THIS MUST BE ONE OF THE FEW TIMES HE GETS TO RELAX
WHAT'S THE MATTER? ARE YOU COLD?
N-NO I'M FINE
PLOP PLOP PLOP
KLINK KLINK
BA-BUMP
BA-BUMP
BUT—
PRINCE KAIL! YOU'RE DRUNK!!
IF YOU'RE COLD YOU SHOULD GET IN THE WARM WATER WITH ME
PUSH

OH NO THE STEAM IS MAKING ME DIZZY
HAS BEEN MARKED
IT'S A SHAME THAT SUCH SMOOTH BEAUTIFUL SKIN...
GASP

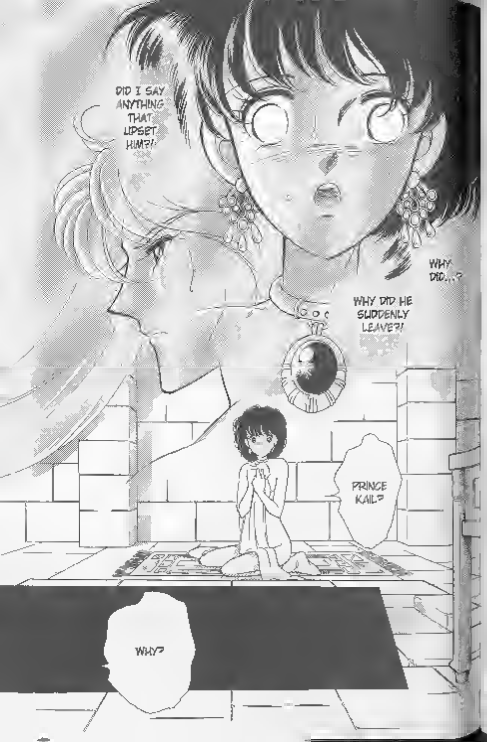
YES
THE SCAR YOU GOT WHEN ZANNANZA WAS KILLED?
DO YOU MIND IF I LOOK AT IT?
WHAT?
Ustle
PRINCE KAIL?!
OH!

MY HEAD'S SPINNING
I FEEL SO DIZZY...
I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT IT
THE WATER'S SO HOT AND SO IS PRINCE KAIL'S BODY
ALL I CAN THINK ABOUT IS PRINCE KAIL...
RIGHT NOW, I DON'T CARE WHETHER I GO BACK TO JAPAN OR NOT

P-PRINCE...
!!
BLUSH
SLUP


P PRINCE KAIL
I LOVE YOU
I DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO ME
NOTHING MATTERS BUT

YURI
RIGHT NOW
ALL I CAN FEEL IS PRINCE KAIL!


DID I SAY ANYTHING THAT UPSET HIM?!
WHY DID...?
WHY DID HE SUDDENLY LEAVE?!
PRINCE KAIL?
WHY?

SPLASH
?!
SWUP
YOU SHOULD PUT SOME THING ON QUICKLY
P- PRINCE KAIL?!
WE'LL CATCH COLD IF WE STAY HERE
PRINCE KAIL?

I WAS FINALLY READY TO MAKE LOVE TO PRINCE KAIL
WHY?
WHAT DID I DO WRONG?
OH!!
WHAT WAS THAT ?!
SPLAK!!

THEY WERE SO CLOSE...
WHY DID THEY STOP?!
HAVING PRINCESS YURI BRING WINE TO THE PRINCE DIDN'T WORK
HMM... THIS MAY BE HARDER THAN WE THOUGHT
I WISH I COULD STEAL AN EGYPTIAN LOVE POTION OR SOME OF QUEEN NAKIA'S ROSE WATER AND PUT IT IN THEIR FOOD
KAK
THAT WOULD DO THE TRICK!
I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING WHAT YOU'LL DO
IT SEEMS WE'VE HIRED A VERY CAPABLE STAFF
GIVE ME A LITTLE MORE TIME, JULIUS. I'LL GET HIM TO PAY ME
YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN YOU MIGHT NEED ME!

...THIS CHILD??
DOES ANYONE KNOW...
WHAT'S THE MATTER, PRINCESS YURI?

?!AND
WHERE DID HE COME FROM?
HUH? A CHILD?
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHO HE IS?

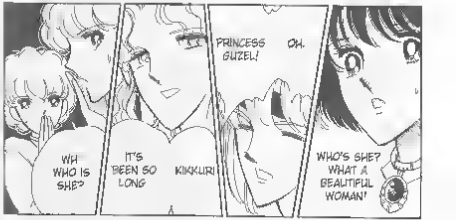
KAIL?
KAIL..?
WHERE ARE YOU KAIL?
WAAH
WAAH
WAAH
HE'S CRYING
THROB THROB
OH WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
WAAH
KROOSH

WHO THREW THAT SNOWBALL AT ME?
WHO DID THAT?
?!
SPLAT!

A CHILD?
WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?
HEE
HEE
SPLAT SPLAT

PLOOSH!!!
THE DAUGHTER OF...
...THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE?
SH-SHE'S PRINCESS GUZEL...
HER FATHER W/S ONCE CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE.
YOU MUST BE ISHTAR
HOW DO YOU DO?
PRINCESS GUZEL?

OH, KAIL!
I DIDN'T KNOW WHERE YOU WERE!
YOU MUSTN'T WANDER OFF LIKE THAT I BROUGHT YOU HERE SO YOU COULD MEET HIS HIGHNESS


WH WHO IS SHE?
IT'S BEEN SO LONG
KIKKURI
PRINCESS GUZEL!
OH.
WHO'S SHE? WHAT A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN!

PRINCESS AUZEL?
OF COURSE I DO. HOW IS SHE?
I WAS UNSURE WHETHER OR NOT I SHOULD TELL YOU THIS ...
I AM HONORED THAT YOU REMEMBER HER, YOUR HIGHNESS
IT'S ALL RIGHT, AYGIL.
I KNOW YOU WOULDN'T COME HERE WITHOUT GOOD REASON
YOUR HIGHNESS
WHAT IS IT YOU WISH TO DISCUSS?
DO YOU REMEMBER MY DAUGHTER?
THANK YOU, YOUR HIGHNESS
FORGIVE ME FOR DISTURBING YOU...
SO EARLY IN THE DAY
WHAT?
AYGIL WANTS TO SEE ME?
WHY DID HE COME HERE? I SEE HIM AT THE EMPEROR'S PALACE EVERY DAY
HE'S HERE? AT THIS HOUR?
WHAT IS IT? IS IT SOME SECRET?
I BELIEVE ... YOU SHOULD MEET WITH HIM, YOUR HIGHNESS

TWO SUMMERS AGO...
PRINCE KAIL'S SON?!
HIS HIGHNESS VISITED ME IN MY PALACE ALMOST EVERY NIGHT
HE IS THE FATHER OF MY CHILD

YOU MAY THINK I AM MAD, BUT...
...GUZEL GAVE BIRTH TO A BABY BOY ABOUT A YEAR AGO
YOUR HIGH-NESS...
THE CHILD IS YOUR SON

IT STILL HURTS! IT'S LIKE MY HEART'S BEING SQUEEZED.
IT HURTS SO BAD I CAN HARDLY BREATHE!!
THROB
THROB
THROB
THROB
PRINCE KAEL HAS A CHILD?!
I KNEW THE PRINCE HAD MANY LOVERS IN THE PAST
I KNOW I HAVE NO RIGHT TO FEEL THIS WAY, BUT...
WE HADN'T EVEN MET WHEN HE WAS SEEING THIS WOMAN...

KAIL
I UNDERSTAND YOU HAVE AN HEIR
I'M VERY HAPPY FOR YOU
HAS PRINCESS GÜZEL COME TO LIVE IN YOUR PALACE YET?!

BRO-THER
YOUR MAJESTY IT'S TOO SOON TO SAY THAT I HAVE AN HEIR
WHY?
PRINCESS GÜZEL'S MOTHER IS FROM A NOBLE FAMILY WHICH MAKES HER ELIGIBLE TO BE YOUR LAWFUL WIFE.
IF YOU DON'T MARRY HER, IT WILL CAUSE A SCANDAL

THOUGH YOU MAY TAKE HER AS A CONCUBINE BEFORE YOU MARRY HER IF YOU WISH
IN ANY CASE YOU SHOULD HAVE HER MOVE INTO YOUR PALACE IMMEDIATELY AND TREAT HER WITH THE PROPER RESPECT!

HAVE YOU HEARD? PRINCE KAIL HAS A SON?!
HE IS THE PRINCE'S FIRST SON NO?
THEY SAY SHE IS THE DAUGHTER OF AYGIL
PRINCESS GÜZEL
WHO IS THE MOTHER ?
OH, THEN COMING FROM A NOBLE FAMILY SHE IS A SUITABLE MOTHER FOR PRINCE KAIL'S HEIR
THE BABY PRINCE MAY ONE DAY SUCCEED HIS FATHER ON THE THRONE

I'LL GO GET SOME WATER
I HAVE CLEANING TO DO
I'LL HELP YOU!
WE WERE JUST WONDERING WHAT MIGHT...
OH DEAR, I'D BETTER GO MAKE DINNER
KASH
HUH?
CAN I ASK YOU A QUESTION?
GIRLS ?!
IS IT IMPORTANT TO A MAN.
TO HAVE A SON?

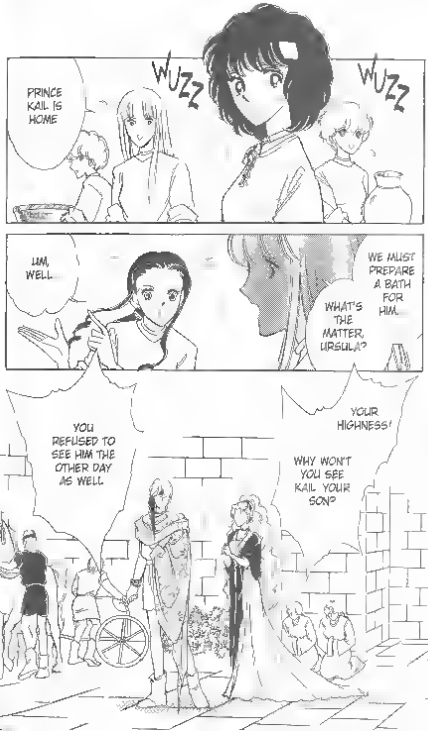
CHEEP CHEEP
HA?!
DO YOU THINK PRINCE KAIL WILL MOVE PRINCESS GUIZEL INTO THE PALACE?
DOES PRINCE KAIL WANT CHILDREN?
PRINCESS YURI!
THAT'S RIGHT PRINCE KAIL MUST BE PLEASED TO HAVE A BABY BOY
I DON'T KNOW BUT SHE DID BEAR THE PRINCE HIS FIRST SON

I CAN'T BELIEVE SOMEONE AS THICK-HEADED AS YOU IS ALLOWED TO LEAD CHARIOTS INTO BATTLE
I SHOULD SEW YOUR MOUTH SHUT!
WHY DID YOU LET ME? THERE ARE NO INSECTS IN THE MIDDLE OF WINTER!
I NEED YOU TO TASTE IT.
WAP
PRINCESS YURI...
I'M BAKING BREAD WITH HONEY AND DRIED PLUMS
NOW I KNOW WHY PRINCE KAIL DIDN'T MAKE LOVE TO ME THAT NIGHT...
PRINCESS YURI
PAY NO HEED TO WHAT KUSH SAID...
IT'S OKAY
HUH?
WHAT ?!
WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE THICKNESS OF MY HEAD? YOU'VE ONLY JUST ARRIVED HERE!
IT WOULD BE A WASTE OF TIME TO TRY TO EXPLAIN IT TO A MAN LIKE YOU. I DON'T CARE HOW LONG YOU'VE SERVED THE PRINCE
HMPH
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO BROKE IT!
I'M BUSY CLEANING UP THAT POT YOU BROKE

AND PRINCE KAIL, THE CROWN PRINCE OF THE GREAT HITTITE EMPIRE...
NATURALLY, PRINCESS YURI
ONE REASON POWERFUL MEN KEEP SO MANY CONCUBINES IS SO THAT THEY CAN LEAVE BEHIND AS MANY CHILDREN AS POSSIBLE
IS A VERY POWERFUL MAN INDEED
I'M SURE HE'S DELIGHTED TO HAVE AN HEIR
KRASH
SORRY THERE WAS A BUG ON YOUR HEAD
THIS IS THE MOST WONDERFUL NEWS HE COULD POSSIBLY--
!!

CHEEP
CHEEP
BECAUSE HE KNEW I COULDN'T HANDLE THE JOB!
PRINCE KAIL STOPPED TRYING TO MAKE LOVE TO ME...
SHIVER
BECOMING PRINCE KAIL'S WIFE ISN'T JUST A MATTER OF BEING HIS LOVER...
I'LL BE EXPECTED TO BEAR HIS CHILDREN AND CARRY OUT DUTIES OF STATE AS HIS CONSORT.
WILL I BE ABLE TO DO THAT?

YOUR HIGHNESS!
RUSAFA
ESCORT PRINCESS GUIZEL HOME FOR ME
YURI
NEITHER MY FATHER NOR I WISH TO FURTHER OUR OWN AMBITIONS
ARE YOU UPSET THAT I NAMED HIM AFTER YOU?
ARE YOU ANGRY THAT I DIDN'T TELL YOU ABOUT HIM SOONER?
PRINCESS GUIZEL...
LET US SPEAK OF THIS SOME OTHER TIME.
I TOLD NO ONE WHO THE BOY'S FATHER WAS UNTIL NOW
BUT WHEN MY FATHER FOUND OUT THAT YOU WERE THE FATHER, HE SAID I WAS WRONG NOT TO TELL YOU


WUZZ
WUZZ
PRINCE KAIL IS HOME
UM, WELL
WE MUST PREPARE A BATH FOR HIM.
WHAT'S THE MATTER, URSULA?
YOUR HIGHNESS!
YOU REFUSED TO SEE HIM THE OTHER DAY AS WELL
WHY WON'T YOU SEE KAIL, YOUR SON?

IF THAT'S TRUE...
IT'S NOT...
...THE RIGHT TIME YET.
...THEN WHY DON'T YOU TELL EVERYONE?
IS THIS SOME KIND OF POLITICAL MANEUVER?
IS IT BECAUSE GUZEL'S FATHER IS AN IMPORTANT MAN?
YURI!
OR DID YOU JUST SAY THAT TO MAKE ME FEEL BETTER?
YOU SOUND LIKE A MAN WHO DOESN'T WANT TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIS CHILD
I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

YURI?
IT WON'T DO ANY HARM JUST TO SEE HIM, WILL IT?
PRINCE KAIL...
WHY DON'T YOU HOLD THE BOY IN YOUR ARMS?
I'M NOT REALLY YOUR CONCUBINE
IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT ME DON'T BE THERE'S NO NEED.
GUZEL'S CHILD IS...
NOT MY SON

"I'M NOT REALLY YOUR CONCUBINE."
"I AM GOING BACK TO JAPAN IN THE SPRING!"
GIVE ME THE REINS!
YOU DON'T NEED TO TELL ME THAT!
I AM WELL AWARE OF IT!

YURI!
I DON'T WANT YOU TO LIE TO SPARE MY FEELINGS!
BECAUSE I AM GOING BACK TO JAPAN IN THE SPRING!
WHO YOU MARRY AND HOW MANY CHILDREN YOU HAVE
HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME!

TARRUHP
TARRUHP
TARRUHP
TARRUHP
TARRUHP
I KNOW WHAT IT REALLY MEANS.
TO LOVE A WOMAN
PRINCE KAIL?!

WHAK
TARRUHP
TARRUHP
TARRUHP
I SEARCHED FOR THE RIGHT WOMAN TO MARRY FOR A LONG TIME.
...AND ALL THE OTHER BEAUTIFUL, TALENTED PRINCESSES DIDN'T SEEM RIGHT FOR ME.
NOW I KNOW WHY PRINCESS GUZEL...
BECAUSE NOW...
KLOP

WHUP
NO!
OPEN THE GATES!
TARRUH
TARRUH
TARRUH
PRINCE KAIL!
TOMP
Y-YES YOUR HIGHNESS!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! LET ME GO!
PRINCE KAIL!

AAAH!

THUMP
OH!
WHERE... ARE WE?
I NEVER KNEW THERE WAS A PLACE LIKE THIS IN HATTUSA.
I'M GOING TO TELL YOU ONE MORE TIME
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BITE YOUR TONGUE OFF KEEP QUIET
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?
PRINCE KAIL! LET ME GO!
STOP IT! PRINCE KAIL!
TARRUP
TARRUP
TARRUP
TARRUP
PRINCE KAIL!
YES.. YOUR HIGHNESS!!
OPEN THOSE GATES!

MY MOTHER'S TOMB
NO ONE BUT MY FATHER AND I HAVE EVER ENTERED THIS PLACE
THE TOMB OF PRINCE KAIL'S MOTHER?
SHE DIED WHEN HE WAS VERY YOUNG...
SHE WAS THE SECOND TAWANANNA OF SUPPILULIUMA II
DID YOU BRING ME HERE SO I'D BELIEVE WHAT YOU SAY?
THIS PLACE MUST BE SACRED TO YOU

GÜZEL'S SON...
IS NOT MY CHILD
!!
WH-WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME THIS?
I DON'T CARE WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK!
BUT I WANT YOU TO KNOW THE TRUTH...
THIS IS...

SHE GAVE BIRTH TO THE BOY MORE THAN A YEAR AFTER THAT
THAT CHILD CANNOT POSSIBLY BE MY SON

YOU THINK THAT PRINCESS GUZEL LIED TO YOU?
THE GUZEL I KNEW WOULD NOT HAVE DONE SO
I'VE NO DOUBT THAT AYGIL BELIEVES THE CHILD IS MINE
HE IS AN HONEST MAN
AH!
PREG-NANCIES NEVER LAST FOR MORE THAN TEN MONTHS

DO YOU THINK SOMEONE IS MANIPU-LATING HER?
THEN WHY WOULD SHE LIE TO YOU NOW?
SHE WAS HONEST AND SINCERE
THAT'S WHY I ONCE CONSIDERED MARRYING HER

I REMEMBER THE LAST TIME I SAW GUZEL

I DON'T KNOW WHETHER THIS GIRL WILL BECOME MY WIFE OR NOT BUT
I WANTED YOU TO SEE HER, MOTHER.

LET'S GO BACK TO THE PALACE, PRINCE KAIL.
SOMEONE'S MANIPULATING HER?
BUT THE ONLY ONE WHO WOULD DO A THING LIKE THAT IS THE QUEEN!
THERE'S NO TIME TO LOSE
YES.
I MUST BE CAREFUL BECAUSE I THINK THAT IS VERY LIKELY THE CASE.